(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to arrange for this defect being rectified?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Information as to the age in the case of those who are merely officiating in gazetted posts is not, as a rule, available in the Account Office until the officers are confirmed.

(*b*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Government Museum and Public Gardens.

281. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state how many applications have been received for the Directorship of the Museum and Public Gardens during the last two years (1100 and 1101), whether they have been disposed of, and, if so, how?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend appointing a full-time Director for the said institution in addition to the present full-time Superintendent doing duty as Honorary Director as well?

(3) Are the Government aware of the practice in Madras, Calcutta, Bombay and Mysore of placing similar institutions under a Superintendent without any Director above him?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) One application was received in 1101 and the applicant was then told that there was no vacancy.

(2) No.

(3) No.

Filling up of Mr. Natesa Aiyar's Vacancy.

382. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) why permanent arrangements have not been made to fill up the place of the Chief Engineer which has fallen vacant on the retirement of Mr. K. V. Natesa Aiyar;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that an Assistant Engineer has been put in charge of the Public Works Department, and, if the answer is in the affirmative, his rank and pay in the Public Works Department;

(*c*) whether they are aware of the fact that there are two Executive Engineers in the department who draw a monthly salary of Rs. 800 each;

(*d*) whether it has not been the practice to put the seniormost Engineer in the service in charge of the Chief Engineer's duties when the Chief Engineer's place falls vacant; and

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, why the practice or rather the principle has been departed from in this case?

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